

Amendments To the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT

A switch is coupled between a plurality of host units and a device for routing frame information therebetween. The switch includes a first serial advanced technology attachment (ATA) port including a first host task file that is responsive to a non-data frame information structure (FIS) from a first host unit. The switch further includes a second serial ATA port including a second host task file that is responsive to a non-data FIS from a second host unit. The switch further includes a third serial ATA port that is responsive to a non-data FIS from a device and further includes an arbitration and control circuit for selecting one of the first host or second host units to concurrently access the device, through the switch, by accepting non-data FIS, from either of the first or second host units, at any given time, including when the device is not in an idle state.